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Charleston Comings and Goings-News and Announcements for the Charleston Library Conference

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The UC thread is intended for attendees who are new to the Charleston Conference. The UC thread is a terrific opportunity for:

- New to the profession of library and information studies, including librarians, library staff, vendors, publishers, content providers, consultants, and researchers.
- New to the Charleston Conference.
- New to the specific areas of focus of the Charleston Conference (collection development, acquisitions, instruction, scholarly communication, technical services, vendor/publisher relations).
- MLIS students and recent graduates.
- Those with no or limited prior experience presenting at professional conferences.

The UC thread is a terrific opportunity for up & comers to:

- Become actively involved in the Charleston Conference.
- Make a stronger case to attend the conference.
- Share your unique experience and knowhow in a supportive, reputable professional sphere.
- Hone your presentation skills.

We also had a call for nominations to recognize and reward Up and Comers: librarians, library staff, vendors, publishers, MLIS students, instructors, consultants, and researchers who are new to their field or are in the early years of the profession. Watch for the recipients to be announced next month! We’re excited to celebrate the winners. The 2017 Up and Comers will be recognized in the December 16-January 17 issue of Against the Grain, and 20 of these brilliant rising stars will be profiled in the same issue.

In addition, they will be featured in a series of scheduled podcast interviews that will be posted on the ATGthePodcast.com website. There will be a reception at the conference on Tuesday, November 7, at 7:00 pm for all first time attendees and the Up and Comers to meet the conference mentors and conference directors. Look for more details in the schedule!

The poster sessions will be held in the Carolina Ballroom of the Francis Marion Hotel on Wednesday, November 8. Presenters will be available to answer questions and narrate their posters. Running concurrently with the poster sessions is a “Happy Hour Networking” event with appetizers and a cash bar. You can mix, mingle, get a bite to eat, and visit the posters all at one time. Also available will be a Speed Networking session — similar to “speed dating” but for professional networking — that will take place in the Calhoun Room just down the hall from the posters.

Virtual Posters are PDF poster images and video presentations that will be displayed on large flat screen monitors during the Poster Sessions as well as on the conference website. We have purchased a new iPad app that will function much like Netflix, where you can scroll through categories with poster thumbnails and titles, then select a poster to view on the big screen. You can zoom and swipe on the iPad to enlarge the view on the big screen as well. We’re really excited about this new format for viewing posters and look forward to sharing it with our attendees! The Virtual Poster screens will be located in the Francis Marion Hotel mezzanine level prefunction/hallway space between the Carolina Ballrooms, where the traditional poster sessions and presenters will be, and the Calhoun Room, where the Speed Networking session will be held.

Back again for another year, the Juried Product Development Forums will be available for librarians/library workers attending the conference. These focus groups are designed for publishers and vendors with new products that are currently in development, or who are in the process of making improvements to existing products, to seek feedback and input from their users. It is a chance for librarians to influence the development, pricing, and features of the products they may be using in the future. The goal of these sessions is to be a win-win situation — not to be a commercial or promotion, but to actively work together to the benefit of everyone involved. Invitations will be emailed to registered librarians later this month, so be on the lookout and be sure to RSVP to attend the session of your choice.

Registration is still open, and the early bird discount deadline is September 15. Don’t miss out on the significantly lower rate! Preconference registration is also still available, and if you’ve already registered for the conference but wish to add a preconference you can do so at https://www.charlestonlibraryconference.com/conference-registration-2/. A complete list of preconferences is available at https://2017charlestonconference.sched.com/overview?type=Preconference.

That’s it for now — stay tuned to the Charleston Conference NewsChannel and the Against the Grain NewsChannel for more updates: www.charlestonlibraryconference.com and www.against-the-grain.com.